

CLAIMS:

1. A circuit (4) for a data carrier (3), which data carrier (3) comprises an interface (7) for contactless communication with a communications arrangement (2), wherein the circuit (4) comprises memory means (5) for storing identification information (II) consisting of information units, which identification information (II) is capable of being supplied via the interface (7) to the communications arrangement (2), and wherein the circuit (4) comprises signal processing means (25) that are arranged to receive and process an indicator signal (IS), which indicator signal (IS) indicates a substantially simultaneous appearance of two different information units, of which two different information units the one information unit is contained in the identification information (II) stored in the memory stage (5) of the circuit (4) and the other information unit is contained in different identification information (II') stored in a memory stage of a different circuit, and which indicator signal (IS) is generated by the communications arrangement (2) upon detection of such a substantially simultaneous appearance of different information units and is communicated to the circuit (4), and wherein the signal processing means (25), as a consequence of receiving and processing the indicator signal (IS), are arranged, firstly, to interrupt the supply of the identification information (II) that has caused the indicator signal (IS) and are arranged, secondly, to memorize at least the information unit that has caused the indicator signal (IS).

2. A circuit (4) as claimed in claim 1, wherein the signal processing means (25) comprise a demodulator stage (26), which is arranged to demodulate a carrier signal (C) appearing at the interface (7) and to supply a demodulated carrier signal (DC), and wherein the signal processing means (25) comprise a decision stage (27), which is designed to receive the demodulated carrier signal (DC) and to decide whether the indicator signal (IS) was received.

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3. A circuit (4) as claimed in claim 1, wherein the signal processing means (25) comprise a sequence control arrangement (19), which sequence control arrangement (19) includes a memory stage (19M), by means of which the position of the information unit within the identification information (II) causing the indicator signal (IS) can be stored.

4. A circuit (4) as claimed in claim 1, wherein the signal processing means (25) are additionally arranged to receive a control signal (CS) via the interface (7) and to process the received control signal (CS), which control signal (CS) is provided to determine that

5 information unit that has caused the indicator signal (IS), and wherein the signal processing means (25), as a consequence of receiving and processing the control signal (CS), are arranged to continue the supply of identification information (II) with the information unit succeeding the information unit that has caused the indicator signal (IS), when the information unit determined by the control signal (CS) is identical with the memorized

10 information unit that has caused the indicator signal (IS).

5. A circuit (4) as claimed in claim 4, wherein the signal processing means (25) are arranged in such a way that the control signal (CS) can be received and processed as a component of the indicator signal (IS).

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6. A data carrier (3) having a circuit (4) as claimed in any one of the claims 1 to 5.

7. A method for supplying identification information (II) stored by means of a

20 circuit (4) for a data carrier (3) to a communications arrangement (2) via an interface (7) of the data carrier (3) arranged for contactless communication, which method comprises the method steps specified below, namely, supplying the identification information (II) in the form of information units via the interface (7) to the communications arrangement (2) and receiving and processing an indicator signal (IS), which indicator signal (IS) indicates a

25 substantially simultaneous appearance of two different information units, of which two different information units the one information unit is contained in the identification information (II) stored in a memory stage (5) of the circuit (4) and the other information unit is contained in different identification information (II') stored in a memory stage of a different circuit, and which indicator signal (IS) is generated by the communications

30 arrangement (2) upon detection of such a substantially simultaneous appearance of different information units and is communicated to the circuit (4), and interruption of the supply of identification information (II) as a consequence of receiving and processing the indicator signal (IS) after the supply of the information unit that has caused the indicator signal (IS), and memorizing of at least the information unit that has caused the indicator signal (IS).

8. A method as claimed in claim 7, wherein a carrier signal (CS) appearing at the interface (7) is demodulated and wherein on the basis of the demodulated carrier signal (DC) a decision is made as to whether the indicator signal (IS) was received.

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9. A method as claimed in claim 7, wherein the position of the information unit within the identification information (II) that has caused the indicator signal (IS) is stored.

10. A method as claimed in claim 7, wherein a control signal (CS) is received via the interface (7), which control signal (CS) is provided to determine that information unit that has caused the indicator signal (IS), and wherein, as a consequence of receiving and processing the control signal (CS), the supply of the identification information (II) is continued with the information unit succeeding the information unit that has caused the indicator signal (IS), when the information unit determined by the control signal (CS) is identical with the memorized information unit that has caused the indicator signal (IS).

15 11. A method as claimed in claim 10, wherein the control signal (CS) is received and processed as a component of the indicator signal (IS).

20 12. A communications arrangement (2), wherein the communications arrangement (2) comprises an interface (6) for contactless communication with a data carrier (3), via which interface (6) identification information (II) that can be supplied from the data carrier (3) can be received in the form of information units and wherein the communications arrangement (2) comprises collision detection means (23), which collision detection means 25 (23) are arranged to detect a substantially simultaneous appearance of two different information units, of which two different information units the one information unit originates from the data carrier (3) and the other information unit originates from a different data carrier (3), and which collision detection means (23) are arranged to generate an indicator signal (IS) and to supply the indicator signal (IS) via the interface (6), which 30 indicator signal (IS) indicates the detection of the substantially simultaneous appearance of the two different information units, and wherein the communications arrangement (2) comprises information unit-processing means (24), which, as a consequence of the detection of such a substantially simultaneous appearance of the different information units by the

collision-detection means (23), are arranged to store and process every information unit that has appeared before the information unit that has caused the indicator signal (IS).

13. A communications arrangement (2) as claimed in claim 12, wherein the information unit-processing means (24) are additionally arranged to generate a control signal (CS), which control signal (CS) is provided to determine that information unit that has caused the indicator signal (IS), and to make available the control signal (CS) for supply of the control signal (CS) via the interface (6), and wherein the information unit-processing means (24), following the supply of the control signal (CS), are arranged to store and to process the information unit determined by the control signal (CS) together with every information unit that has appeared before the information unit that has caused the indicator signal (IS).
14. A communications arrangement (2) as claimed in claim 13, wherein the collision-detection means (23) are arranged to receive the control signal (CS) from the information unit-processing means (24) and to supply the control signal (CS) as a component of the indicator signal (IS).